

HOUSE RESOLUTION 227
By Vincent

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Luther Massingill upon receiving the Tennessee Association of Broadcaster's 2004 Distinguished Service Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Mr. Luther Massingill who through his sincere concern for humanity and selfless acts of kindness, has earned the Tennessee Association of Broadcaster's 2004 Distinguished Service Award; and

WHEREAS, his longstanding tenure in radio broadcasting began on New Year's Eve 1940 with WDEF Radio in Chattanooga, Tennessee; four decades later, Mr. Massingill continues to proudly serve the morning listeners of WDEF; and

WHEREAS, the "longest running radio announcer on the same station in the U.S.", Mr. Massingill is the only current broadcaster in America to have announced the news of both the attacks on September 11, 2001, and the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Massingill is described as a friend to all of his listeners; from finding bus schedules for listeners to reporting problems like potholes, missing street signs, and locations of needed traffic signals to city officials, he is never "too busy" to offer his assistance; and

WHEREAS, an active and devoted member of his community, Mr. Massingill is credited with reuniting more animals with their owners than the City Humane Society, finding clothing and furniture for families who have lost their homes to fire, and finding heaters or air conditioning units for those in need of relief; and

WHEREAS, not wishing to "flaunt his success", Mr. Massingill is modest about both winning the prestigious "Marconi Award" and receiving numerous offers to advance his career in New York, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and Boston; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his professional success and his many contributions to his community, Mr. Massingill is an active member of Avondale Baptist Church, where he serves as Building Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, a man possessing a myriad of talents, Mr. Massingill also enjoys maintaining Ford Model T automobiles in the home where he and his wife have resided since 1954; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Massingill is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Mary, and their two children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Luther Massingill, through his devotion to radio listeners across the State and his efforts to advance his community, epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Luther Massingill for the happiness he brings to the citizens of this great State through his incredible stories, great sense of humor, and boundless community spirit; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby congratulate Luther Massingill upon receiving the Tennessee Association of Broadcaster's 2004 Distinguished Service Award, and saluting his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, we extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.